Docket No.: 101896-0474 (DEP5262USPCT) (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Michael Mahoney et al.

Application No. 10/579,146

Confirmation No. 8927

Filed: May 12, 2006

Art Unit: 3775

For:

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SPINAL **SURGERY**

Examiner: Larry E. Waggle, Jr.

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being sent via EFS Web on the date shown below.

Dated: September 15, 2010 Signature:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated March 19, 2010.

Amendments to the Specification begins at page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begins at page 16 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begins at page 17 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 24 of this paper.

Five (5) Annotated Sheets and five (5) Replacement Sheets are attached hereto.